



St Philip's Come & See

email: comeandsee@stphilipsoconnor.org.au

www.stphilipsoconnor.org.au

ph: 02 6161 7334

 @stphilipsoconnor

Sunday 9 August 2020

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

8am Eucharist

10am Eucharist with music

The 8.00am Eucharist will be live on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/stphilipsoconnor). Then it will be available on either our [YouTube channel](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...) or [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/stphilipsoconnor). All links and details are on our web page www.stphilipsoconnor.org.au



Dear Friends,

I am sure you can imagine this month's Parish Council meeting was concerned to a great degree with the issue of our COVIDSAFE Plans. The wave of infections in Victoria is a cause of great concern and we are mindful of the need to take every precaution. The three fundamentals remain: Please, don't attend any gathering if you are feeling unwell, ensure you use hand hygiene measures and be mindful of social distancing. To these three we should add that wearing a mask is

appropriate if you are feeling vulnerable or wish to take extra precautions. We will continue to Livestream the 8am Eucharist on Sundays if you are uncertain about attending.

Over the last 50 years or so we have become more mobile than ever before. We can gather, shop, be entertained, worship wherever we like. This has suddenly changed and in our lifetime never has the idea of 'Parish' been so important as it has become in recent months. Theologian Alison Millbank rightly identifies the 'disastrous fragmentation of our society' in recent decades and how 'our country is crying out for a rebirth of locality...for the restoration of social bonds'. Perhaps, then, the social dislocation many are currently experiencing is in part not so much *caused* by the coronavirus, but rather *revealed* by it.

If this is the case here in Australia, in Canberra, in O'Connor (and I do believe the same issues are prevalent) then this is an opportunity for us to revisit the ancient role of Church – its commitment to place and locality. This is our opportunity to be a leading light in our community. The response to the reopening of Pandoras, for example, was extraordinary; many were so grateful for the opportunity to shop in their community in a place that was safe.

Thursday last we celebrated the Feast of the Transfiguration. Jesus predicts the cross and is then revealed in all his glory. I pray that the cross of the pandemic which we bear at present will be the opportunity for us all to reveal the latent potential within our community and our parish.

Blessings to you all

Martin

0478 619 911

rector@stphilipsoconnor.org.au

Front cover: Work by an anonymous Armenian artist shows The Feeding of the Five Thousand and Peter walking towards Jesus.

Entrance Antiphon [Introit]

They cried out in fear, but Jesus spoke to them and said, 'Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.' Matthew 14:26-27

Prayer of the Day

Mighty God and ruler of all creation,
give new strength to our faith,
that we may recognise your presence
even when all hope seems lost.
Help us to face all trials with serenity
as we walk with Christ through the stormy seas of life
and come at last to your eternal peace.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Today's Readings

A reading from the first book of Kings (19:9-18)

⁹At that place he came to a cave, and spent the night there.

Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?' ¹⁰He answered, 'I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.'

¹¹He said, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by.' Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; ¹²and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. ¹³When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to

him that said, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?' ¹⁴He answered, 'I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.' ¹⁵Then the Lord said to him, 'Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. ¹⁷Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. ¹⁸Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.'

Psalm 85:8-13

I will hear what the Lord God will speak:
for he will speak peace to his people,
to his faithful ones, whose hearts are turned to him.

**Truly his salvation is near to those that fear him:
and his glory shall dwell in our land.**

Mercy and truth are met together:
righteousness and peace have kissed each other;

**Truth shall flourish out of the earth :
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

The Lord will also give us all that is good:
and our land shall yield its plenty.

**For righteousness shall go before him:
and tread the path before his feet.**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans (10:4-15)

⁴For Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes. ⁵Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that 'the person who does these things will live by them.' ⁶But the righteousness that comes from faith says, 'Do not say in your heart, "Who will ascend into heaven?" ' (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷or "Who will descend into the abyss?" ' (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸But what does it say?

'The word is near you,

on your lips and in your heart'

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹The scripture says, 'No one who believes in him will be put to shame.' ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³For, 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.' ¹⁴But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, 'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!'

The Gradual

Alleluia! **Alleluia!** My soul is waiting for the Lord, I count on his word. **Alleluia!**

Psalm 130:5

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (14:22-36)

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵And early in the morning he came walking towards them on the lake. ²⁶But when the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified, saying, 'It is a ghost!' And they cried out in fear. ²⁷But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, 'Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.' ²⁸Peter answered him, 'Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.' ²⁹He said, 'Come.' So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came towards Jesus. ³⁰But when he noticed the strong wind, he became

frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, 'Lord, save me!' ³¹Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, 'You of little faith, why did you doubt?' ³²When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, 'Truly you are the Son of God.' ³⁴When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret. ³⁵After the people of that place recognized him, they sent word throughout the region and brought all who were sick to him, ³⁶and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

For the Gospel of the Lord,

praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayers of the people

In our prayers this week we remember all those in need, particularly: Roger, Ros, Sam, Ben, Gage, Hugh, Beryl, Joan, Margaret and Sarah.

We commend to God the recently departed and those whose years mind falls at this time: Jean McCarty (12/8/2019); Thelma Morton (16/8/1993); Linda Anchell - *Deacon* (16/8/2019); Donald Brown (17/8/1988) and John Gamble (22/8/1993)

Communion Antiphon

The bread I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.

John 6:51

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray,

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

A Prayer of Spiritual Communion

[When the clergy make their communion if you are watching from home you may like to privately make the following prayer. It was believed from earliest times that Christians could receive the benefits of Holy Communion even if they were unable to be present at the Eucharist. This teaching was of particular comfort to so-called Confessors of the Faith, who were imprisoned and deprived of access to the sacraments].

Jesus, you have given us in the Holy Eucharist
your Body and Blood to be our spiritual nourishment
through which we may have life everlasting.

I desire, with all my heart, to receive this living Bread
which came down from Heaven.
Send your Spirit upon me, come and refresh my soul.
That, whilst I may be isolated from your sacramental presence
and from your Body, gathered;
I may know the peace and joy of communion with you
and your body the Church, in my heart.

Increase my faith,
strengthen my hope,
kindle my love,
that I may die to self and live but for you. Amen.

[If you are interested in the history and the theology behind Spiritual Communion this YouTube clip is helpful. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9uBiqbTY7oA&feature=youtu.be>]

For Reflection

The Kingdom of God by Francis Thompson

'In no Strange Land'

O world invisible, we view thee,
O world intangible, we touch thee,
O world unknowable, we know thee,
Inapprehensible, we clutch thee!

Does the fish soar to find the ocean,
The eagle plunge to find the air--
That we ask of the stars in motion
If they have rumour of thee there?

Not where the wheeling systems darken,
And our benumbed conceiving soars!--
The drift of pinions, would we hearken,
Beats at our own clay-shuttered doors.

The angels keep their ancient places;--
Turn but a stone, and start a wing!
'Tis ye, 'tis your estranged faces,
That miss the many-splendoured thing.

But (when so sad thou canst not sadder)
Cry;--and upon thy so sore loss
Shall shine the traffic of Jacob's ladder
Pitched betwixt Heaven and Charing Cross.

Yea, in the night, my Soul, my daughter,
Cry,--clinging Heaven by the hems;
And lo, Christ walking on the water
Not of Gennesareth, but Thames!

'The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart.' Words from the Epistle this morning. In our poem Francis Thompson invites us to see the scandal of the particular in the story of God and the stories of our own lives. There is indeed a certain *traffic* about Jacob's ancient ladder, but it may well be pitched between Heaven and Charing Cross, New York City, or Canberra. Christ may well come walking on the water, though perhaps not from the direction of Gennesareth, but The Thames or even Lake Burley Griffin.

News

Parish Council meet during the week. Here are the main points from the meeting:

- Rev'd Martin and Parish Council are continuing to devote time and energy to managing a Covid Safe environment at St Philip's for the protection of parishioners, visitors to St Philip's and the wider community.
- Parish Council would like to remind all parishioners that if you are unwell, have been overseas or in any hotspots in Australia in the last 14 days or have been in contact with anyone showing signs of Covid-19, please do not attend services at this time.
- The main symptoms of Covid-19 are fever, cough, sore throat and shortness of breath. Less common symptoms are loss of smell, loss of taste, runny nose, muscle pain, joint pain, diarrhoea, nausea, vomiting and loss of appetite.
- The Diocese has approved the Pandora's Covid Safe Plan. For the time being Pandoras will only be only open on Saturday mornings.
- Work has been completed on the water leak from old pipes in the area between the toilets and the Parish storage shed. Quotes are now being obtained for remedial work on the broken pavement. There is still no access to the two toilets. However the disabled toilet and the Lamerton Centre ramp remain open. Please continue to take care if you are in the vicinity of the work area.

I hope the latest edition of *Church Chat*, our occasional newsletter arrived in your inbox. Thank you to all who contributed and thanks to Laura Wood our Editor for putting it all together. We would

love to receive input from as many people as possible and are open to any suggestions. Please email Laura at yourlaurawood@gmail.com with your content and ideas for the next issue.

Thank you to all those who generously donated towards the Rectory Solar Project. The installation is complete including the installation of a Smart Meter to enable monitoring of power usage and creation. We had planned this year to look at the way we 'steward' our resources. The onset of the pandemic rather than spoil our plans has rather sharpened our thinking and perhaps enabled all of us to reassess and to consider how we prioritise and use our resources. Thank you again to all those who donated towards the project and all who continue to support the mission and ministry of the parish.

Calendar @ St Philip's

Today	<i>Tenth Sunday after Pentecost</i>
8am	Eucharist - Livestreamed
10am	Eucharist with Music
Thursday 13 August	<i>Jeremy Taylor, bishop and spiritual writer</i>
10am	Eucharist
Friday 14 August	<i>Twentieth Century Martyrs</i>
5pm - 6pm	Happy Hour online, for those who wish to catch up St Philip's Happy Hour link
Saturday 15 August	
10am - 1pm	Pandora' Preloved Fashions - open
Sunday 16 August	<i>Mary, Mother of our Lord</i>
8am	Eucharist – Livestreamed
10am	Eucharist with music

Rosters

August	9-Aug-20	16-Aug-20	23-Aug-20	
Sunday of Month	2nd	3rd	4th	
Liturgical Season	10th Sunday after Pentecost	11th Sunday after Pentecost	12th Sunday after Pentecost	
Celebrant	Rev'd Martin	Rev'd Martin	Rev'd Martin	8am
Preacher (if different to Celebrant)		Rev'd Canon Scott		
Sidespeople & Welcomer	Alison & Alistair	Vicki L & helpers	Tim & Shane	
Liturgical Assistant	Ellie P	Lisa C	Peter W	
Bible Reader	Alison or Alistair	Joesph or Dominic	Shane W	
Celebrant	Rev'd Martin Johnson	Rev'd Canon Scott	Rev'd Martin Johnson	10am
Sidespeople & Welcomer	Hardy & Helen P, Janene B	Jeannette M, Laura W & Richard G	Sally A, Denise M & Fred A	
Liturgical Assistant	Crucifer: Zara Server: Leighton		Philippa W	
Musician(s) & Singers/Soloist	Colin F	Colin F	Colin F	
Bible reader	Jeanette D-T	Laura W	Peter L	
Musician(s) & Singers/Soloist	Colin F	Colin F	Colin F	